

Jones Journal

"A BETTER COUNTY THROUGH IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES"

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Tobacco Overplanting in '48 Causes Resignation of Jones PMA Chairman

Hospital Vote Plans Put Into Motion By Board on Monday

The Lenoir County Board of Commissioners Monday approved a resolution which sets into motion the necessary legal actions that come before the vote this summer on whether or not the county will accept memorial General Hospital and vote a \$465,000 bond issue for its renovation and expansion. A public hearing for the first Monday in June was set in order that the public may have a chance to come before the board and express its opinions on either side of the proposal.

Superintendent of Public Welfare George B. Hanrahan made a progress report on the location of new homes for the 18 patients now living in the condemned county home and asked the board for an appropriation of \$500 to help the depleted general assistance budget of the department.

ABC Board Chairman Thomas Mewborn appeared and presented the county with its quarterly share of the liquor store profits. The check amounted to \$33,000 which was approximately \$15,000 less than the check for the same period last year.

Kinston Housing Authority Executive Director Paul LaRoque presented the board with a check for \$1,717.92 in lieu of taxes on the authority's property in Kinston.

Rain Breaks Long Dry Spell in Jones County

Rain fell in most parts of Jones County at the beginning of a period of drought which parched tobacco plant beds and scorched its forests to inflammable tinder boxes.

The rain came in from the east but did not reach the Lenoir County line, observers reported. And with the rain was a small quantity of hail in two sections of the county.

The sections affected by the hail were just to the north and south of Trenton, but the size of the crops prevented serious damage in the light downfall of the icy pellets.

The county committee of Jones County's Production and Marketing Administration is marking time, waiting for further moves by the state office, following the April 3 resignation of its chairman, Milton E. Gilbert.

The resignation of Chairman Gilbert came after an accusation against him of overplanting six acres of tobacco on a 17.5 acre allotment in 1948. The accusation came from Paul Gilbert, a cousin, at the hearing on his overplanting of his 1950 allotted crop of 14.4 acres by 10 acres.

Faced on April 3 at Trenton by Chairman G. T. Scott of the state PMA organization and J. H. Potter, chief of the marketing quota section, Chairman Gilbert pleaded guilty to a two-acre overplanting during the period cited. With his resignation on the following day he paid a money penalty of \$584.44, based on 3,076 pounds at 19 cent per pound.

No acreage reduction for the 1950 crop was imposed against Chairman Gilbert, although his cousin and accuser lost 10 of his 24.4 acre allotment for 1950. The case of Paul Gilbert is now under appeal to the state review committee.

Committee member Jeff Conway was moved up to the chairmanship of the county group following Gilbert's resignation, and Alternate Clyde Loftin was made the third member of the committee with John M. Hargett.

The committee is marking time to await further action on the overplanting of the Gilbert cousins. In the preliminary investigation of the violations it was revealed that Paul Gilbert had measured the allotted acreage of ex-chairman Gilbert in 1948, the year of the admitted overplanting.

County Secretary Nelson Barker refused comment on the case, saying that the state officials had withheld announcement of the action until a hearing on the matter could be held for a complete investigation.

Sixty Percent Sign Up For Tobacco Insurance

More than 60 per cent of the eligible growers of tobacco in Jones County have enrolled in the first year of the operation of the Federal Crop Insurance Cor-



Above Senator Frank P. Graham is seen talking with Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Smith of Pink Hill, parents of Willard Smith for whom the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9414 was named. In the back and at the right is Elbert E. Smith, brother of Willard. Dr. Graham spoke Saturday in the impressive dedication ceremony that was conducted for the post's new home just north of Pink Hill on the Kinston highway.

Pink Hill VFW Home is Dedicated in Impressive Ceremonies on Saturday

poration, it has been estimated by County Clerk Mary DeBruhl. More than 4,000 of the allotted 7,352 tobacco acres of the county have been given "investment" protection in the 930 contracts written for landlord and tenant.

The cost to those participating is \$7.50 per acre, ranging up to a \$250 per acre maximum. Where both landlord and tenant participate on the same crop each insures his proportionate share, Miss DeBruhl said.

Many of the crop insurance policies have already gone to the tobacco growers, but the last minute flood of applications, 234 of them in the final week, before the April 25 deadline has put the policy issuing work of the county office behind.

Jones County was the 12th of 13 counties in North Carolina to

Budget Reviewed By Jones Commissioners Negro Agent Quits

The principal action of the Jones County board of commissioners in their May meeting Monday was acceptance of the resignation of Negro Farm Agent Albert W. Spuill, effective May 30, and the approval of Fletcher Barber, a Jones County native to take his place on the county's extension staff.

A general discussion was also held by the commissioners, all of whom were present, on the prospect of budget balancing for the coming fiscal year beginning July 1st. Most emphasis was placed on the needs of the Department of Public Welfare because of the request from the state department for information to be applied in the fixing of state and federal grants. It was indicated that a small increase in the tax levy rate on Jones County's \$5,500,000 property valuation might be required to meet its welfare

A success by any set of standards is an old phrase but it can assuredly be applied to the dedication last Saturday of the Willard Smith Post 9414 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars new home at Pink Hill. The music was excellent, the dedication speech was superb and the food was better than both; this latter opinion with the unanimous consent of the speaker and the musicians.

Beginning with a parade from the southern edge of Lenoir County's most southern community and proceeding to the new VFW home just north of Pink Hill the affair moved on schedule to its culmination in an old fashioned picnic served on the grounds.

The Cherry Point Marine Air Base Band furnished music for the parade and program and Senator Frank P. Graham offered the dedication address. Post Commander George M. Turner presided over the occasion and introduced the honored guests of the day among them being the parents of the man the post was named for, Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Smith.

Maysville-Pollocksville High School Announces Graduation Ceremonies

institute the federal crop insurance. The officials of the program had set a tentative quota of 800 applications for the first year of operation of the program, and have been gratified at the 930 which have come in.

The Jones County committee directing the program is headed by Chairman John M. Hargett, Ben Harrison and Clarence Mattocks. Other workers in the program are Bruce Johnson, Z. A. Koonce, F. P. Noble, Alva P. Howard, J. P. Davenport, Julian Waller, James L. Barbee, C. A. Loftin, J. E. Parker, W. R. Bender and Sam Phillips.

In spite of lower farm prices, the use of fertilizer will hold up well, the U. S. D. A. economists predict. They believe that fertilizer costs still favor the use of more fertilizer. Prices will run about the same as they did last year.

Principal M. R. Bonner of Maysville - Pollocksville High School has released the schedule for graduation week exercises at his school. The week begins with class night exercises at 8 p. m. Friday night, May 5, and conclude with awards of diplomas on Friday night, May 12.

The Class Night program will be built on the theme "Of Footprints and Time." The Baccalaureate Sermon will be preached by The Reverend Grady Burgess of the Jacksonville Baptist Church at 3 p. m. Sunday, May 7.

On Monday, May 8, at eight o'clock Margaret Rose's dancing class will give its spring recital, which will include tap and ballet numbers.

Dr. W. A. Abrams will make the principal address at graduation night exercises.

Principal Bonner has extended a cordial invitation to everyone in the county to attend any or all of this series of programs.



The justly proud girls pictured above are the members of Girl Scout Troup 11 of Kinston. Their troop Sunday afternoon became the first in Kinston to have the entire troop become first class scouts. Following the Court of Honor in which they were presented their insignia the girls were guests at a tea given by the local Scout Council. The honor guard from the troop pictured on the front row above, left to right, is Jennie Jones, Phaedra Keffer, Frances Canady, and Nancy Temple. Second row includes Mary Nicholson, Coleman Jenkins, Ann Hudnell, and on the back row are Mary Griffin Wooten, Dorothy Ann Wooten, Margaret Taylor and Eva Carter. (Whitaker-Leffew photo)